

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY


(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

REC'D 09 FEB 2006

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Applicant's or agent's file reference P019226WOP	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/GB2004/004917	International filing date (day/month/year) 22.11.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 21.11.2003	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC H04M3/493, H04M1/2745			
Applicant INTELLPROP LIMITED et al.			
<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 7 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of 5 sheets, as follows:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">b. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) , containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p>			
<p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the opinion</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application</p>			
Date of submission of the demand 15.09.2005		Date of completion of this report 09.02.2006	
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Pays Bas Tel. +31 70 340 - 2040 Tx: 31 651 epo nl Fax: +31 70 340 - 3016		Authorized Officer Schweitz, M Telephone No. +31 70 340-4471	



**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
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International application No.
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Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 - ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
 - ☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the **elements*** of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report):*

Description, Pages

1-27 as originally filed

Claims, Numbers

1-39 received on 14.11.2005 with letter of 10.11.2005

Drawings, Sheets

1/4-4/4 as originally filed

- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing

3. ☒ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages
- ☒ the claims, Nos. 1-12
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
- ☐ the sequence listing *(specify):*
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing *(specify):*

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

- ☐ the description, pages
- ☐ the claims, Nos.
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
- ☐ the sequence listing *(specify):*
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing *(specify):*

* If item 4 applies, some or all of these sheets may be marked "superseded."

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Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	5, 6, 8, 12, 18, 19, 21, 25, 31, 32, 34, 38, 39
	No: Claims	1-4, 7, 9-11, 13-17, 20, 22-24, 26-30, 33, 35-37
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	
	No: Claims	1-39
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-39
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7):

see separate sheet

Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

see separate sheet

Re Item V

**Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
citations and explanations supporting such statement**

1 Reference is made to the following documents:

D1 : EP 1 058 443 A (ALCATEL) 6 December 2000

D2 : WO 98/35481 A (URE, MICHAEL, J) 13 August 1998

D3 : EP 1 195 975 A (INTELLPROP LIMITED) 10 April 2002

D4 : GB 2 342 536 A (ORANGE PERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES
LIMITED) 12 April 2000

1.1 The documents D3 and D4 were not cited in the international search report. Copies of the documents are appended hereto.

2 Independent claims 1, 14 and 27

The present application does not meet the criteria of Article 33(1) PCT, because the subject-matters of amended independent claims 1, 14 and 27 as received on 14.11.2005 are not new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT.

2.1 The document D1 discloses (the references in parentheses applying to this document) all the features of independent claim 1:

a telephone terminal (figure 1) operable to transmit dialling information to a telephone network, the terminal having an operating text mode of entry (column 3, lines 20-23) for specifying a desired connection in which dialling information is entered in a form that comprises text and is transmitted from the terminal to the network (paragraph 0015-0016).

2.2 The same reasoning applies, *mutatis mutandis*, to the subject-matter of the corresponding independent claim 14, which therefore is also considered not new.

2.3 Furthermore, the document D1 discloses (the references in parentheses applying to this document) all the features also of independent claim 27:

a telecommunications system comprising a telephone network having a text dialling system that includes a voice services equipment (column 3, lines 38-41; "telephone exchange"), and a telephone terminal (figure 1) operable to transmit dialling information (column 3, lines 38-41) to the voice services equipment in the telephone network, the terminal having an operating text mode of entry (column 3, lines 20-23) for specifying a desired connection in which dialling information is entered in a form that comprises text and is transmitted from the terminal to the network (paragraph 0015-0016).

2.4 Claim 27 is not clear (see section VIII of this communication). For the purpose of examination of novelty and inventive step, "voice services equipment" has been interpreted to indicate a telephone exchange.

3 Dependent claims 2-13, 15-26 and 28-39 do not contain any features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the requirements of the PCT in respect of novelty and/or inventive step. See the relevant passages of documents D1 and D2 and any further documents cited in the search report as well as the herein referenced documents D3 and D4.

3.1 All features of claims 2-4, 7, 9-11, 13, 15-17, 20, 22-24, 26, 28-30, 33, 35-37 and 39 are explicitly or implicitly disclosed in document D1. Therefore, the subject-matters of said claims are considered not new (Article 33(2) PCT).

3.2 The features of claims 5, 6, 12, 18, 19, 25, 31, 32, 38 and 39 are considered trivial in their application to the field of telecommunications for a skilled person. Thus, the subject-matters of said claims cannot be considered as involving an inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT).

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3.3 For claims 8, 21 and 34, see section VIII

Re Item VIII

Certain observations on the international application

- 1 The application does not meet the requirements of Article 6 PCT, because claim 27 is not clear.
 - 1.2 The intended meaning of the term "voice services equipment" used in claim 27 is not clear (Article 6 PCT) and leaves the reader in doubt as to the technical features to which it refers, thereby rendering the definition of the subject-matter of said claim unclear.
 - 1.3 The purpose fulfilled by including the voice services equipment as part of the text dialling system in claim 27 is also not clear since it has not been specified which function is performed by said voice service equipment for the purpose of text dialling. Because the function of the voice service equipment is not clear, it is also not possible to establish which technical problem the inclusion of said term relates to. For this reason, the voice service equipment of claim 27 appears entirely optional in relation to the definition of the invention of the present application.
- 2 Claims 8, 21 and 34 do not meet the requirements of Article 6 PCT in that the matter for which protection is sought is not clearly defined. In said claims, it is attempted to define the subject-matter in terms of the result to be achieved, without providing the technical features necessary for achieving this result.

EPO - DG 1
14. 11. 2005
(108)

AMENDED CLAIMS

1. A telephone terminal operable to transmit dialling information to a telephone network, the terminal having an operating text mode of entry for specifying a desired connection in which dialling information is entered in a form that comprises text and is transmitted from the terminal to the network.
2. A terminal as claimed in claim 1, in which the connection to be established is a voice connection.
3. A terminal as claimed in claim 1 or 2, that is a mobile terminal.
4. A terminal as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 3, in which the terminal has key entry means operable to confirm the dialling information for transmission.
5. A terminal as claimed in claim 1, in which the terminal is operable to initiate a connection to the network by indialling to a service number.
6. A terminal as claimed in claim 5, in which the service number is predetermined, and may be in the form of an international number or a short code.
7. A terminal as claimed in claim 1, in which the terminal is operable to combine the step of entering as text and confirming the dialling information with the step of initiating a call to the network.
8. A terminal as claimed in claim 1, in which at least part of the dialling information transmission and processing time takes place in parallel with call set-up time for an indialled call to the network.
9. A terminal as claimed in claim 1, in which the terminal is operable to answer an outdialled call from the network in order to initiate the desired connection.

10. A terminal as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the terminal has key entry means to place the terminal into the operating text dialling mode from a standby mode.
11. A terminal as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the terminal can be switched to a numeric entry mode in which the terminal is operable to enter dialling information in a form that consists of numeric information, for transmission to the network.
12. A terminal as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the dialling information is transmitted by SMS, USSD or packet data.
13. A terminal as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, including a display operable to display a text calling line identity string received as part of a text communication, and operable on entry of a confirmatory action by the user to transmit the text string to the network, and to initiate automatically a connection to a service platform.
14. A method of operating a telephone terminal to transmit dialling information to a telephone network to establish a desired connection, the method comprising the step of placing the terminal into an operating text mode of entry for specifying the desired connection in which the dialling information is entered in a form that comprises text and is transmitted to the network.
15. A method as claimed in claim 14, in which the connection to be established is a voice connection.
16. A method as claimed in claim 14 or 15, in which the terminal is a mobile terminal.

17. A method as claimed in claim 14, 15 or 16, in which the terminal has key entry means operable to confirm the dialling information for transmission.
18. A method as claimed in claim 14; in which the terminal is operated to initiate connection to the network by dialling in to a service number.
19. A method as claimed in claim 18, in which the service number is predetermined, and may be in the form of an international number or a short code.
20. A method as claimed in claim 14, in which the terminal is operated to combine the step of entering as text and confirming the dialling information with the step of initiating a call to the network.
21. A method as claimed in claim 14, in which at least part of the dialling information transmission and processing time takes place in parallel with call set-up time for an indialled call to the network.
22. A method as claimed in claim 14, in which the terminal is operable to answer an outdialled call from the network in order to initiate the desired connection.
23. A method as claimed in any one of claims 14 to 22, in which the terminal is placed into the operating text dialling mode from a standby mode.
24. A method as claimed in any one of claims 14 to 23, in which the dialling information is transmitted to a telephone network that has a text dialling system including a voice services equipment for receiving the dialled information.
25. A method as claimed in any one of claims 14 to 24, in which the dialling information is transmitted by SMS, USSD or packet data.

26. A method as claimed in any one of claims 15 to 26, in which the telephone terminal has a display, including displaying a text calling line identity string received as part of a text communication, and, upon entry of a confirmatory action by the user, transmitting the text string to the network, and initiating automatically a connection to a service platform.
27. A telecommunications system comprising a telephone network having a text dialling system that includes a voice services equipment, and a telephone terminal operable to transmit dialling information to the voice services equipment in the telephone network, the terminal having an operating text mode of entry for specifying a desired connection in which dialling information is entered in a form that comprises text and is transmitted from the terminal to the network.
28. A system as claimed in claim 27, in which the connection to be established is a voice connection.
29. A system as claimed in claim 27 or 28, in which the terminal is a mobile terminal.
30. A system as claimed in claim 27, 28 or 29, in which the terminal has key entry means operable to confirm the dialling information for transmission.
31. A system as claimed in claim 27, in which the terminal is operable to initiate a connection to the network by indialling to a service number.
32. A system as claimed in claim 31, in which the service number is predetermined, and may be in the form of an international number or short code.
33. A system as claimed in claim 27, in which the terminal is operable to combine the step of entering as text and confirming the dialling information with the step of initiating a call to the network.

34. A system as claimed in claim 27, in which at least part of the dialling information transmission and processing time takes place in parallel with call set-up time for an indialled call to the network.
35. A system as claimed in claim 27, in which the terminal is operable to answer an outdialled call from the network in order to initiate the desired connection.
36. A system as claimed in any one of claims 27 to 35, in which the terminal has key entry means to place the terminal into the operating text dialling mode from a standby mode.
37. A system as claimed in any one of claims 27 to 36, in which the terminal can be switched to a numeric entry mode in which the terminal is operable to enter dialling information in a form that consists of numeric information, for transmission to the network.
38. A system as claimed in any one of claims 27 to 37, in which the dialling information is transmitted by SMS, USSD or packet data.
39. A system as claimed in any one of claims 27 to 38, in which the terminal includes a display operable to display a text calling line identity string received as part of a text communication, and operable on entry of a confirmatory action by the user to transmit the text string to the network, and to initiate automatically a connection to a service platform.